

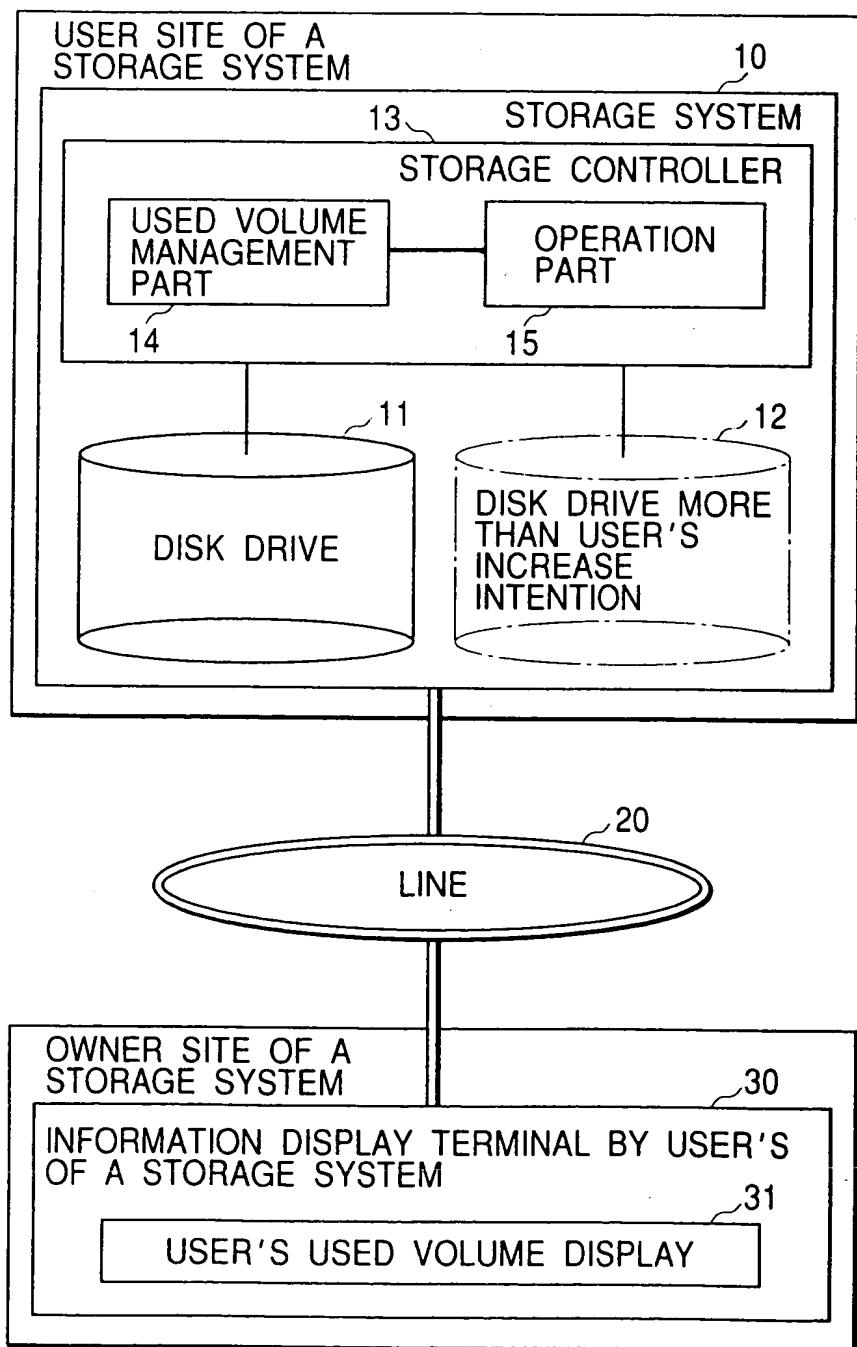
FIG. 1CHARGING SYSTEM OVERVIEW OF A
STORAGE SYSTEM

FIG. 2

MANAGEMENT TABLE OF A DISK CONTROL
UNIT OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

ON-DEMAND VOLUME	ON-DEMAND FLAG ATTRIBUTE (SET/RESET)	RESET TIME (DATE AND TIME)
xxGB	RESET	yymmddhhmmss
xxGB	RESET	yymmddhhmmss
xxGB	SET	
xxGB	SET	
⋮	⋮	⋮
xxGB	SET	

FIG. 3

INFORMATION FLOW OF A STORAGE
SYSTEM AND AN INFORMATION
DISPLAY TERMINAL
AT RESET OF AN ON-DEMAND FLAG

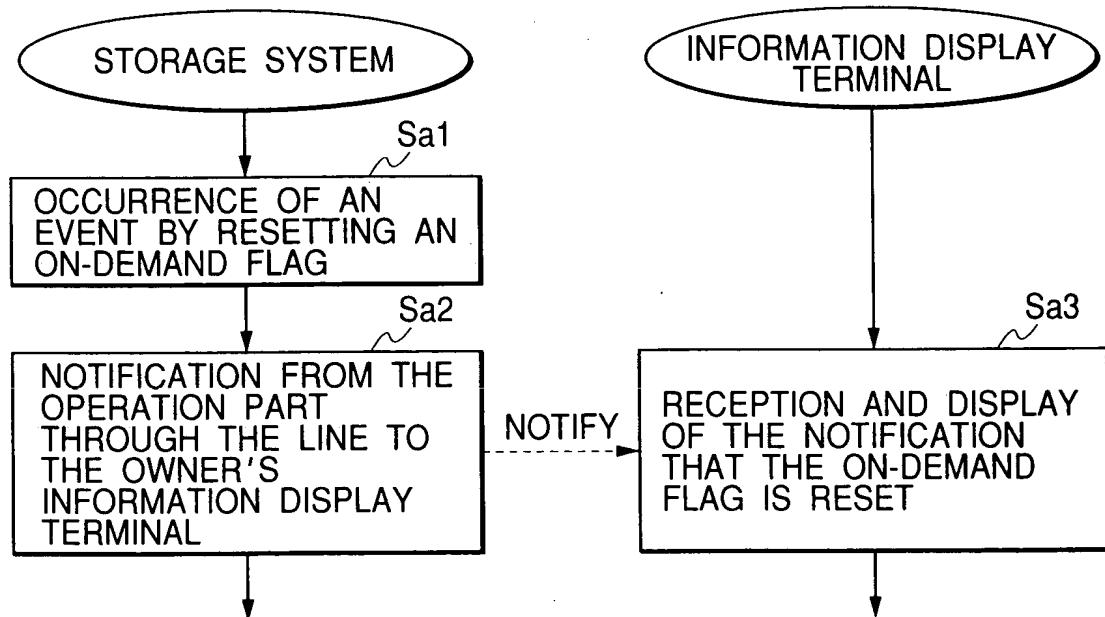
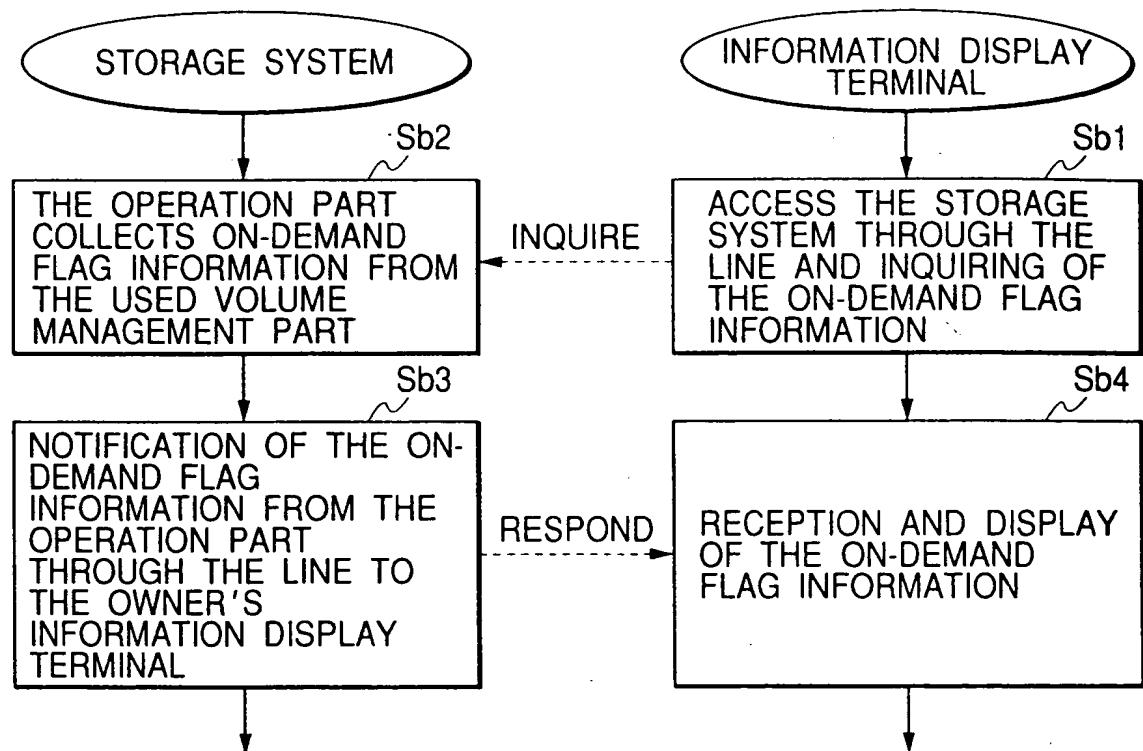


FIG. 4

INFORMATION FLOW OF A STORAGE SYSTEM AND AN INFORMATION DISPLAY TERMINAL AT CONFIRMATION (INQUIRING) OF INFORMATION

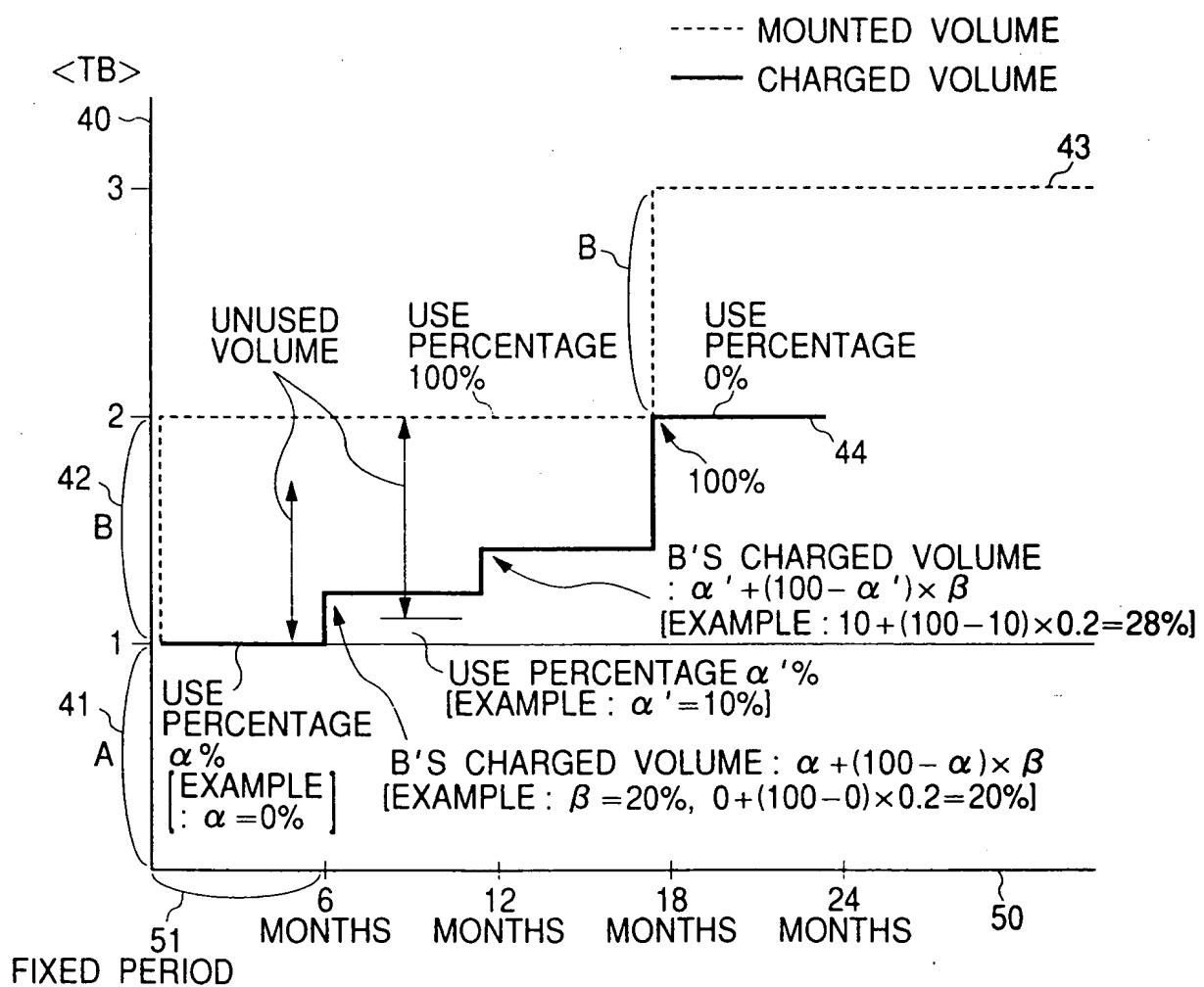
**FIG. 5**

EXAMPLE OF AN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TABLE BY USERS OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

	USER A	USER B	USER C
USER ID	xxxxxx	xxxxxx	xxxxxx
USED VOLUME	xxGB	xxGB	xxGB
ADDED VOLUME	xxGB	xxGB	xxGB
USE PERIOD	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY TO x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY TO x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY TO x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY
USE STARTING DATE	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY	x YEAR/x MONTH/x DAY
ALLOCATED VOLUME	VOL. 1, VOL. 2	VOL. 3, VOL. 4	VOL. 5, VOL. 6
USE UNIT COST	x ¥/MONTH	x ¥/MONTH	x ¥/MONTH

FIG. 6

CHARGED VOLUME TRANSITION DIAGRAM TO THE DISK VOLUME OF A STORAGE SYSTEM



DECISION OF A "USED VOLUME" AND AN "UNUSED VOLUME"
AFTER 6 MONTHS ELAPSE
A TOTAL CHARGED VOLUME FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS IS
 $A+B$ USED VOLUME +
(B'S UNUSED VOLUME \times CHARGING PERCENTAGE $\beta\%$)

FIG. 7

FLOWCHART OF A CHARGING METHOD TO THE DISK VOLUME
OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

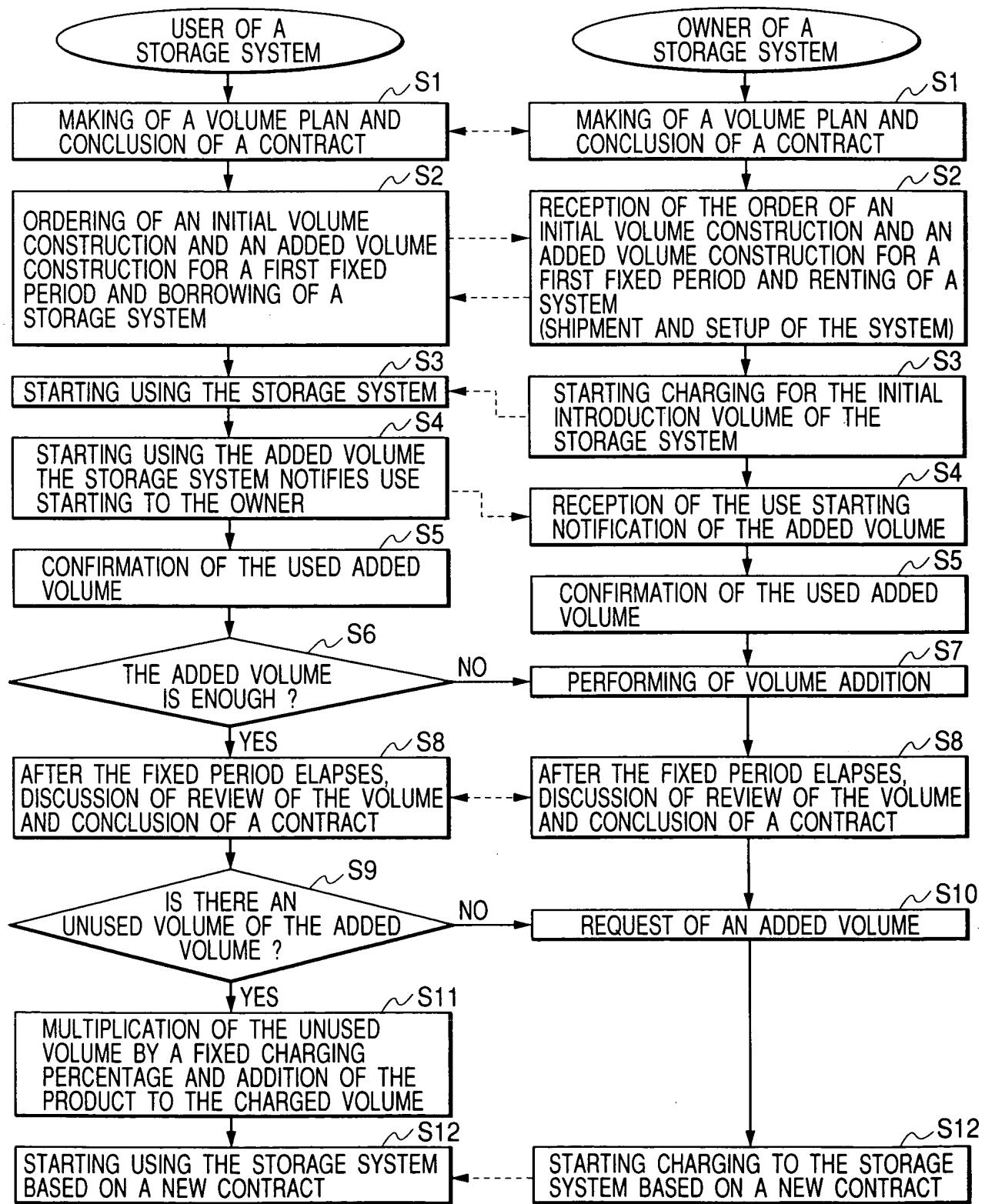
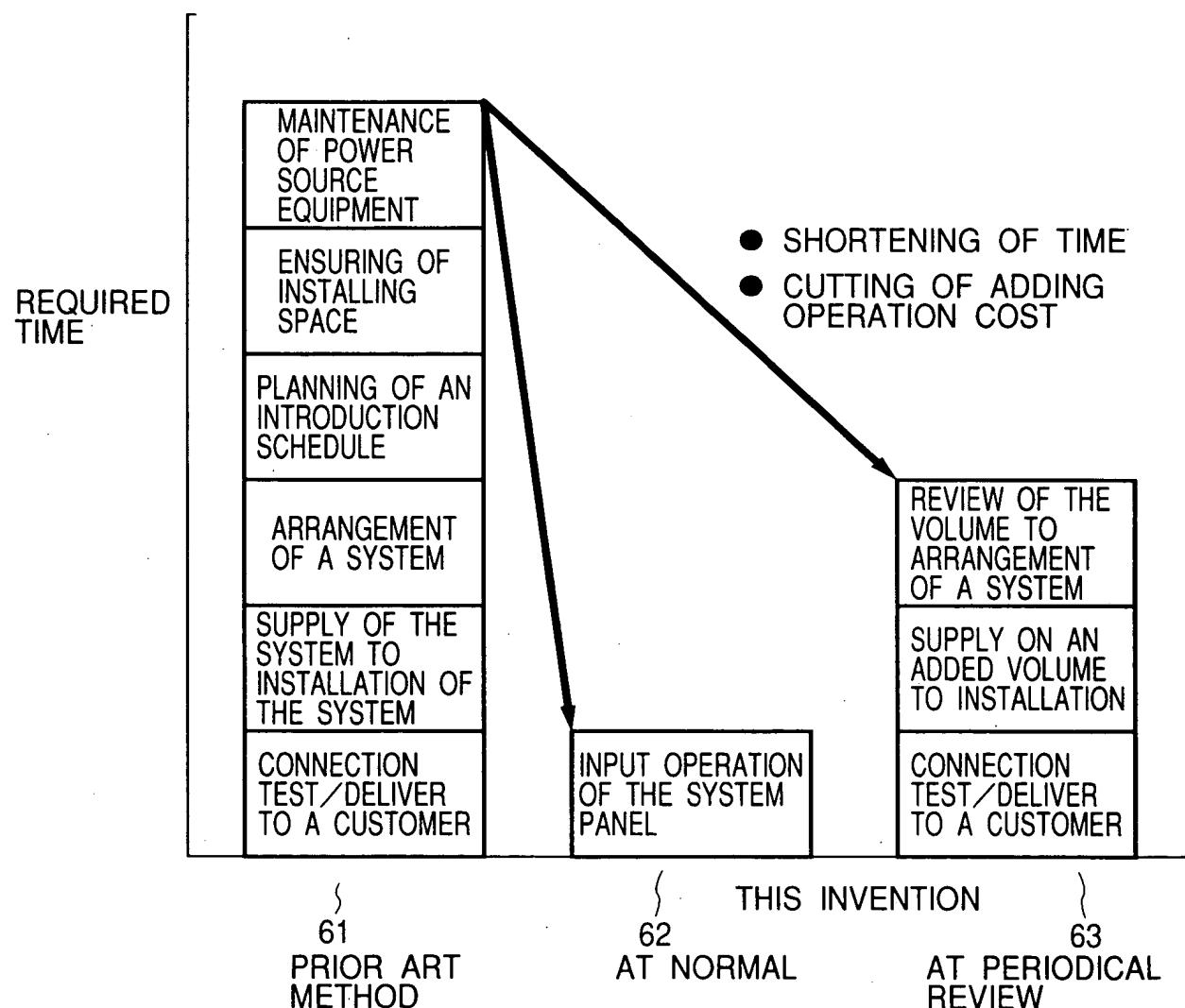


FIG. 8

TIME REQUIRED FOR VOLUME ADDITION TO A
STORAGE SYSTEM



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PRIOR ART

FIG. 9

INITIAL INVESTED VOLUMES TO A STORAGE SYSTEM

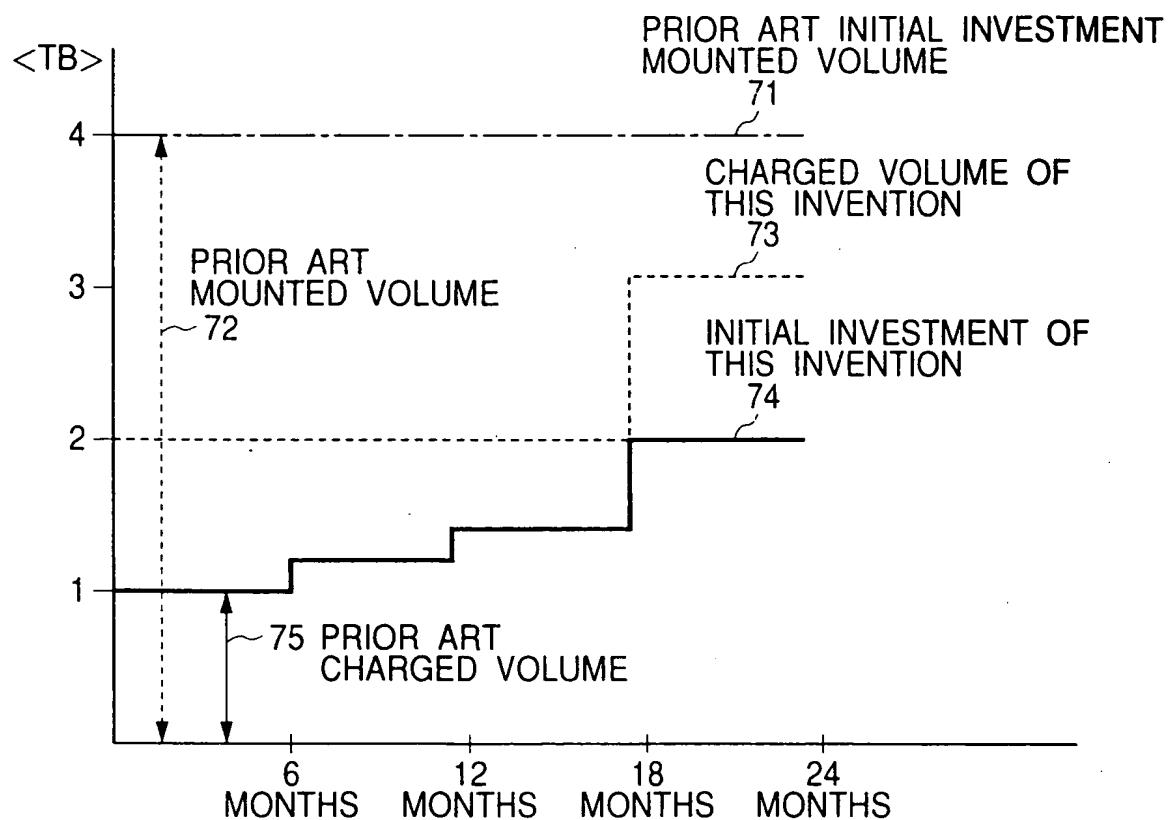


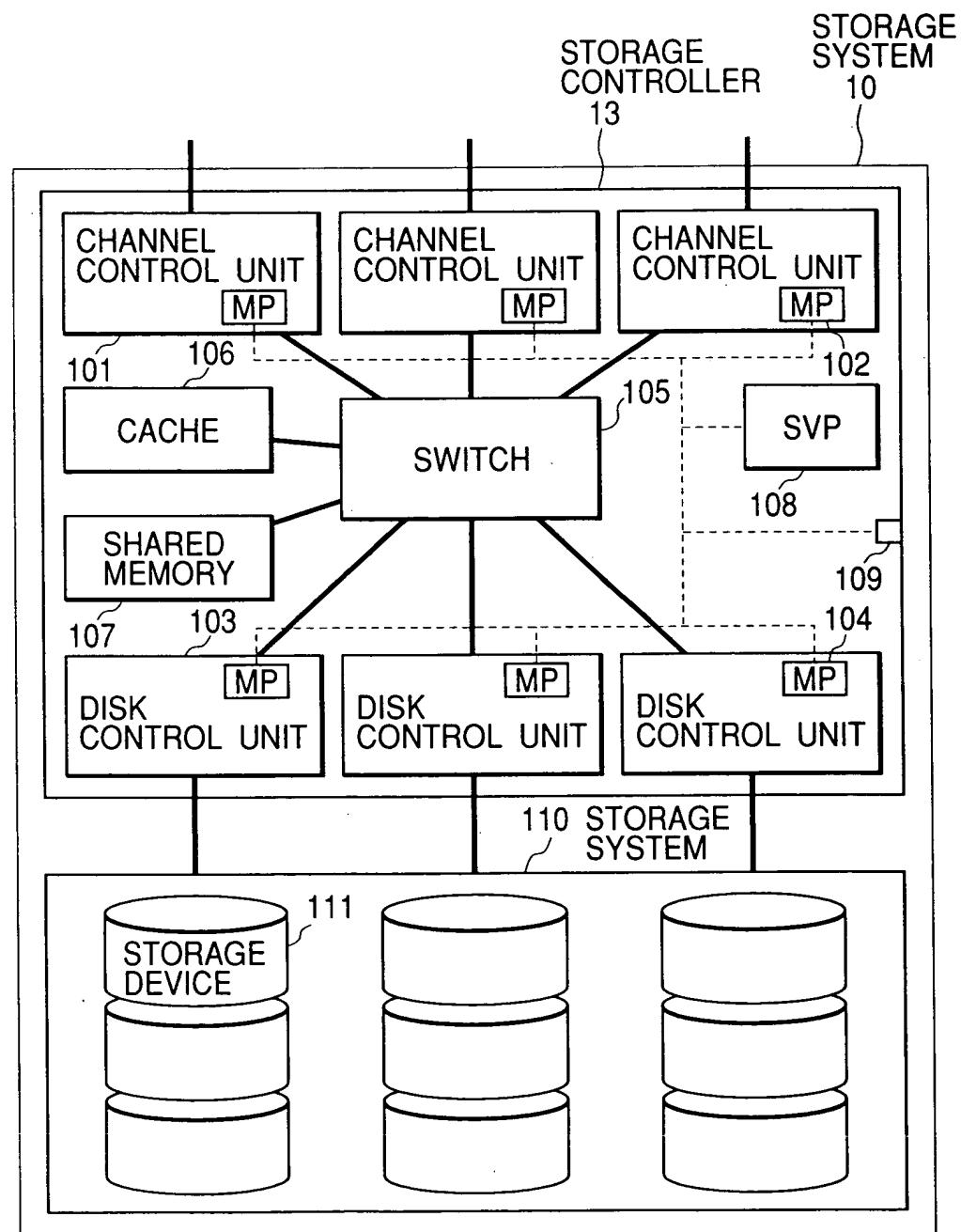
FIG. 10

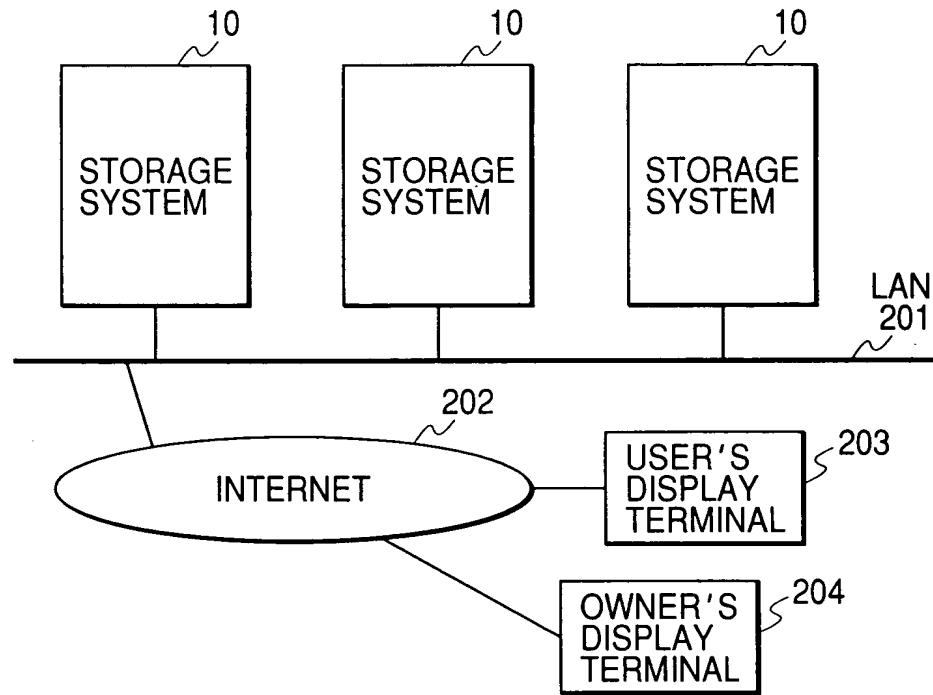
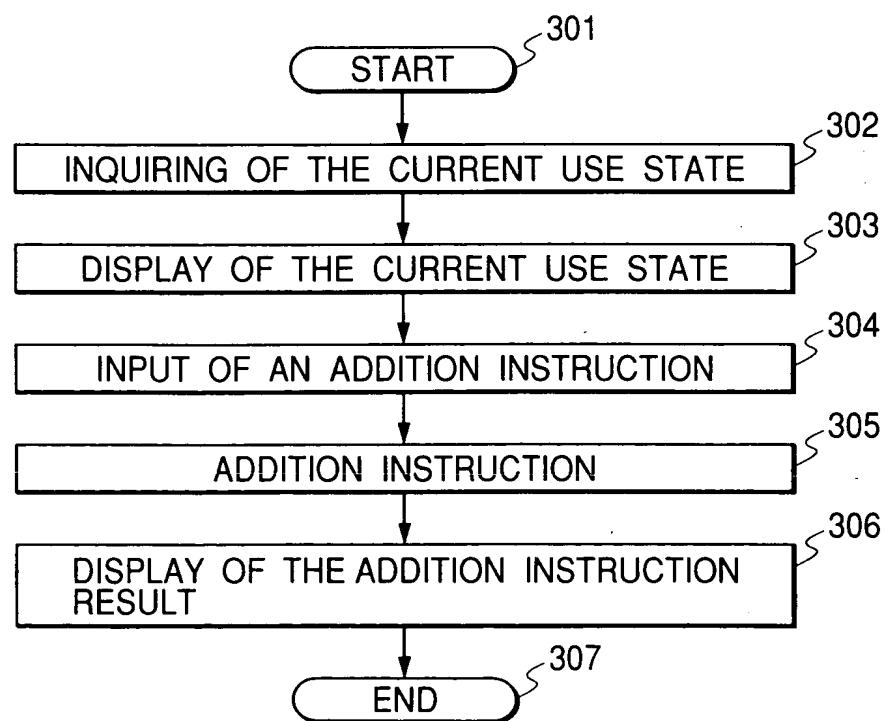
FIG. 11**FIG. 12**

FIG. 13

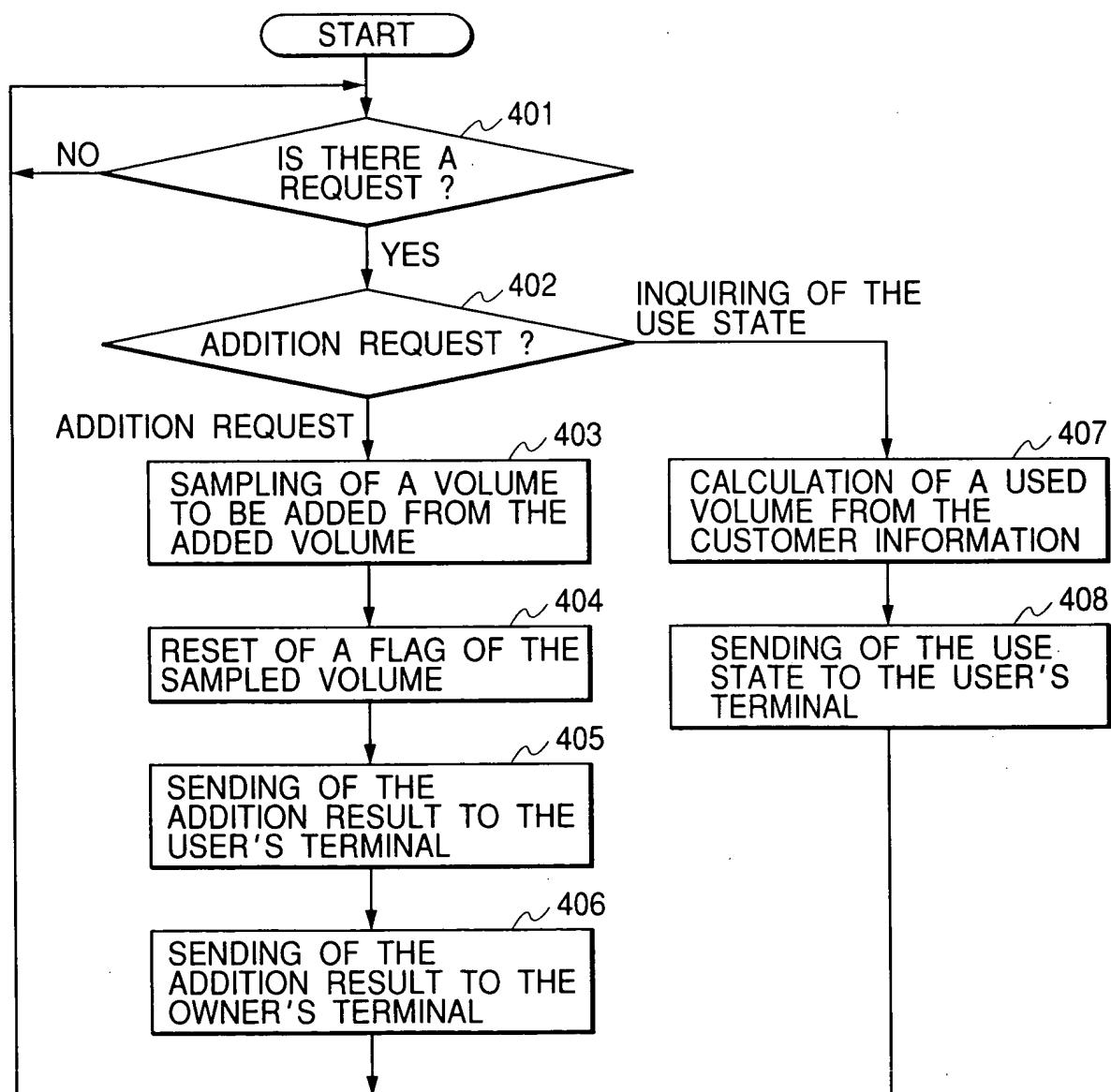
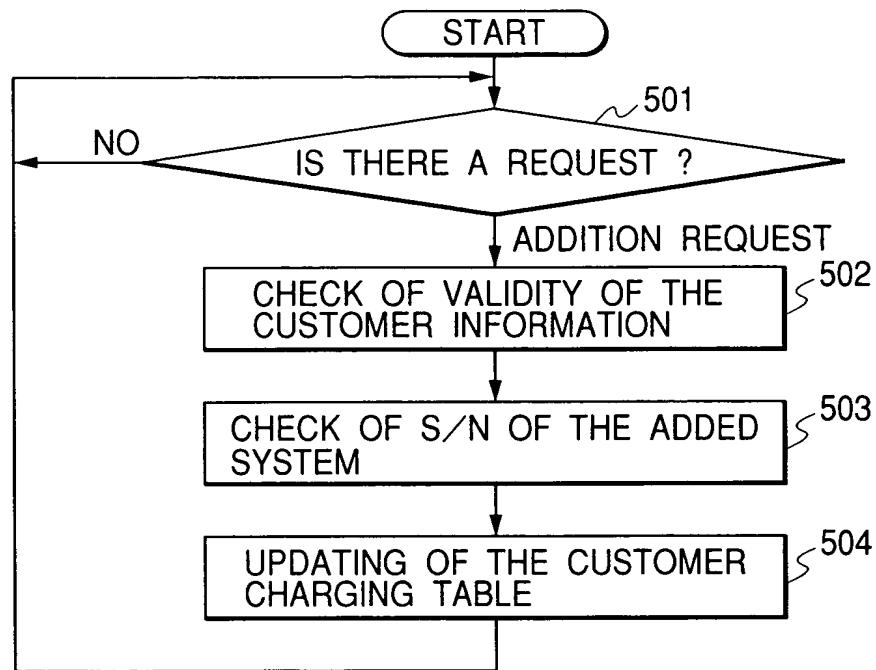


FIG. 14**FIG. 15**

STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN	
STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN	
INPUT THE FOLLOWING TO SELECT THE BUTTON	
PRODUCT TYPE NAME	STORAGE-TYPE A ~ 601
PRODUCTION NUMBER	34QS1234567890 ~ 602
USER SUPPORT ID	34QS1625345 ~ 603
INQUIRE ... ~ 604	
END	

FIG. 16

STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN

STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN	
USE STATE	PRODUCT TYPE NAME PRODUCTION NUMBER USER SUPPORT ID
	STORAGE-TYPE A 34QS1234567890 34QS1625345
	ADD ...
	701 703
BASIC VOLUME BASIC VOLUME UNIT COST EXCESSIVE USED VOLUME EXCESSIVE USE UNIT COST UNUSED VOLUME UNUSED UNIT COST CONTRACT PERIOD MOUNTED VOLUME	100GB ¥100/MB 30GB ¥250/MB 70GB ¥50/MB 2000.01.01—2002.12.31 5000GB
	702
	END

FIG. 17

STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN

STORAGE SYSTEM USED VOLUME ADDITION ASSISTANCE SCREEN	
ADDITION	PRODUCT TYPE NAME PRODUCTION NUMBER USER SUPPORT ID
	STORAGE-TYPE A 34QS1234567890 34QS1625345
ADDITION — BASIC VOLUME	300GB
	801
	802
	803
APPLY	CANCEL